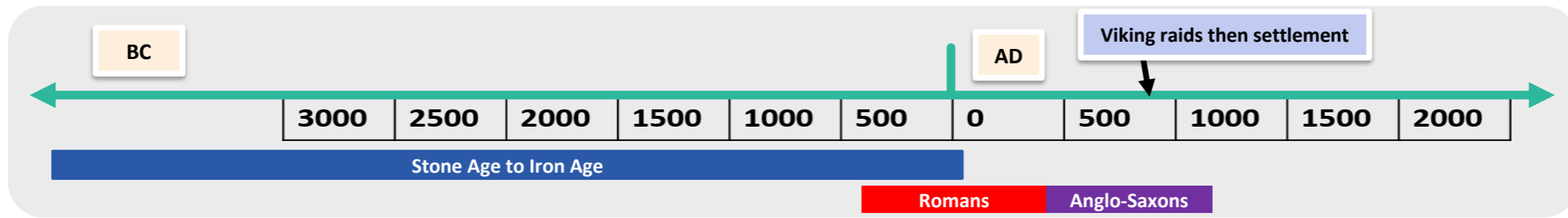


# The Anglo-Saxons: Was the Anglo-Saxon period really a Dark Age?



## 10 key takeaways

1. The Roman army left Britain around 410AD.
2. The Anglo-Saxons had started to raid Britain before the Romans left.
3. The Anglo-Saxons started to **settle** in Britain as the country was **fertile**.
4. The Anglo-Saxons came from Germany, Holland and Denmark.
5. The Anglo-Saxons were originally **pagans**, but they gradually converted to Christianity.
6. The Anglo-Saxons did not call the time that they lived the 'Dark Ages'.
7. Historians called the Anglo-Saxon **period** a 'Dark Age' as they thought it was very different to civilised Roman Britain.
8. The archaeological remains at Sutton Hoo and the Staffordshire **Hoard** tell us a lot about the Anglo-Saxons. They have made historians change their minds about a 'Dark Age'.
9. We can also find out about the Anglo-Saxons from the story of Beowulf.
10. From 793CE the Vikings raided and then settled in Britain.

## 5 words to remember

- Hoard:** Hidden treasure stored away  
**Fertile:** A place where plants and crops grow easily  
**Pagan:** A term used for someone who worshipped many gods  
**Period:** A time in history  
**Settle:** To make a home somewhere

The main reason why the Anglo-Saxon period is/is not a Dark Age is:

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Our most important local link to the Anglo-Saxon period is:

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Can you add your location to the map?

The Staffordshire Hoard is one of over 300 Anglo-Saxon hoards found across Britain. 4000 items were found there.



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Sutton Hoo is the largest Anglo-Saxon burial mound in England. This iron helmet was found in the burial chamber.



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